

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB 03/03067

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C07K14/705 C12N15/12 C12N5/00 G01N33/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K G01N C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

MEDLINE, EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, EMBASE, SEQUENCE SEARCH

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	SHIRE D ET AL: "An amino-terminal variant of the central cannabinoid receptor resulting from alternative splicing." THE JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY. UNITED STATES 24 FEB 1995, vol. 270, no. 8, 24 February 1995 (1995-02-24), pages 3726-3731, XP002258733 ISSN: 0021-9258 the whole document	1-3,5, 7-27
X	WO 92 02640 A (US HEALTH) 20 February 1992 (1992-02-20) the whole document	1-3,5, 7-27

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 October 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/11/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01 77172 A (ARENA PHARMACEUTICALS INC ;LIAW CHEN W (US); LIN I LIN (US); LEHMA) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) page 66. -----	1-3,5, 7 7-27

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claim 21 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 17-20
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 17-20

Present claims 17-20 relate to a product defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely (ant)agonists, modulators, inverse agonists of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2 or selectively binding to the CB1b nucleic acid.

The claims cover all products having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for no such compounds. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity (Article 6 PCT). An attempt is made to define the product by reference to a result to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. Consequently, the search has not been carried out for those claim.

In claim 5, reference to a CB1a receptor was considered to be an obvious error and was searched as CB1b.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9202640	A	20-02-1992	AU 645609 B2	20-01-1994
			AU 8543091 A	02-03-1992
			CA 2087844 A1	09-02-1992
			EP 0542920 A1	26-05-1993
			JP 5507417 T	28-10-1993
			WO 9202640 A1	20-02-1992
WO 0177172	A	18-10-2001	AU 4988501 A	23-10-2001
			CA 2402392 A1	18-10-2001
			CN 1420929 T	28-05-2003
			EP 1301594 A2	16-04-2003
			WO 0177172 A2	18-10-2001